

EXHIBIT 8
DATE 2-6-09
HB 2THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF MONTANA

RUSSELL C. FAGG

DISTRICT JUDGE-DEPARTMENT 2

TERRY HALPIN, JUDICIAL ASSISTANT/TRANSCRIPTIONIST

RENNIE STICHMAN, LAW CLERK

PO BOX 35027
BILLINGS, MONTANA 59107
PHONE: 406.256.2906
FAX: 406.256.2970

February 3, 2009

Members of Judicial Branch
Law Enforcement and Appropriations Subcommittee

Dear Subcommittee Members:

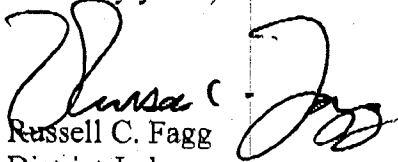
I am pleased to write this letter of support for the Self-Help Law Program and the Self-Help Centers. Briefly, the last legislative session saw fit to initiate a program that allows people to help themselves when faced with legal proceedings.

I am particularly pleased that the legislature approved funding to set up two Self-Help Law Centers, one in Kalispell, and one in Billings. Moving these Centers out of Helena to where the needs were greatest has been an exceptional success.

In the past year, several thousand Montanans have received hands-on help in what is probably a frightening prospect – involvement in a legal proceeding.

In addition, there have been numerous mini-grants spread across the state to help Self-Represented Litigants. I believe these monies have been well-spent, and that we are getting a good bang for our buck.

Sincerely yours,


Russell C. Fagg
District Judge